

SHIPLEY TOWN COUNCIL GREEN GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Mission Statement:

“To provide grants to people and organisations for purposes that further the [recommendations](#) made by the Citizens’ Jury and contained in Shipley Town Council’s [Climate Action Plan](#) (Transport, Housing, Education and Nature) to benefit, improve and support the environment and residents in Shipley (parish boundary)”

Name of applicant: Jen Dyer (on behalf of Nifty Sustainability)

Tell us about yourselves and/or what your organisation was set up to do:

We are Nifty Sustainability CIC, a micro social enterprise established in 2019 by Claire Bastin and Jen Dyer. We bring expertise in social science research, consultation and evaluation, education and learning, community engagement, and activism. We help diverse groups and organisations who are trying to create meaningful change for the benefit of people, planet and prosperity. We have three key strands of work, all based around sustainability:

- **Research and evaluation:** we support a range of VCSE and wider public, education and health organisations in evaluating their impacts and developing their policy and practice through in-depth, creative research practices.
- **Learning:** we develop resources to build knowledge and capacity around sustainability, supporting individuals and organisations to embed sustainability into their practices.
- **Engagement, inclusion, and activism:** the way we work is as important as what we do. As a community interest company, we seek to make a positive difference through our research and learning. We also use a portion of any profits for community projects to encourage inclusive activism.

What is your idea (that you are applying for these funds for)?

We would like to develop a series of interactive workshops based around the Shipley Climate Action Plan, and trial them with representatives from local organisations in order to:

- Build knowledge and capacity around climate change and sustainability more broadly.
- Inspire and facilitate local action that contributes to the Climate Action Plan.
- Create new and strengthen existing connections around climate action in Shipley and beyond.

We envisage a series of four interactive, in person, 1.5-hour workshops which explore:

1. Climate change: what is climate change? Why is it happening? What are the impacts? What are people and communities doing to tackle climate change? How do you feel about climate change? Prior to this workshop, we will ask participants to engage with our accessible online resources, covering these themes, so the workshop can be more interactive and based around questions arising and exploring emotions around climate change. This will also allow for participants with different levels of knowledge around climate change to be on the same page around key knowledge areas needed for subsequent workshops.
2. The Shipley Climate Action Plan: what are the key themes and suggested actions? Why are they relevant? What are our spheres of influence? Where and how could we contribute to a thriving Shipley?
3. Taking action: where do we go from here? Who needs to be involved? What are we aiming for? What are the next steps? What support is needed?
4. Reflecting and sharing learning: what worked? What are the impacts so far? What were the challenges? How can we share the learning more broadly? What happens next?

Workshops 1, 2 and 3 will be fortnightly and then we will have a longer break (timescale to be decided by participants) before workshop 4 to allow participants to trial climate actions in their contexts.

We will aim to recruit ~10 participants from a range of local organisations, some of whom have an environmental focus (e.g., Plastic Free Shipley, Shipley in Bloom, Friends of Northcliffe) and some who don't (e.g., Shipley and Saltaire Men's Shed, Cellar Trust) in order to develop broader networks around climate action and share learning around what might be appropriate climate action in different contexts. We will aim to engage a diverse group of participants in terms of e.g., age, gender, ethnicity and ability and keep an eye on voices we think might be missing.

This project builds on, and further develops, Nifty's involvement in the Citizen's Jury and the 'Let's Talk' climate change and carbon-focused workshops we co-developed and delivered in Shipley in 2023. From the Jury, it was clear there is a huge appetite for learning and individual and community capacity building around climate change. From the workshops, we noticed that participants were really keen to look forwards, be ambitious about the changes we could make as a community and understand how to take climate action in ways that feel most appropriate and relevant to them.

Which element(s) of Shipley's [Climate Action Plan](#) does your idea address?

This idea could address any of the elements of Shipley's Climate Action Plan depending on where participants feel they could have most impact, where their spheres of influence are, and what would inspire them to act. Building capacity, and encouraging people and organisations to trial climate actions, will mean those involved directly and indirectly will be better able to respond as issues around climate change evolve in Shipley and beyond.

We will keep the Shipley Climate Action Plan central to the process and encourage participants to think broadly and boldly about how they could contribute. For example, some participants might like to put their energy into campaigning for retrofitting housing and we could link them up with Above Ground to work out how best they could do this. Some might prefer to take measures to increase biodiversity in their own garden or reduce their personal car use. Some might be able to influence their organisations and / or employers to embed more sustainable practices around transport, insulation, energy usage.

How will Shipley benefit from carrying out your idea?

Many people would like to get involved in taking climate action but feel like they don't know where to start! Our idea will mean those directly involved in the workshops will build knowledge and capacity around climate change and will be able to think about how they could take action, as well as influencing others who aren't directly involved, i.e. people in their own networks and communities, to contribute to the Shipley Climate Action Plan too.

We know that giving space to discussions around climate change and facilitating people to act is helpful for people struggling with paralysing emotions associated with climate change such as fear, guilt, grief, frustration and anger. We also know that exploring climate change and options for action is far more empowering and enabling in a group than trying to take climate action on your own, and that ideas that come out are likely to be more creative, innovative and ambitious! Shipley will benefit from these ideas being formed and acted on. This might be in terms of new green energy projects, or building climate responsive habitats. We would also expect Shipley to benefit from having a network of active and well-resourced people who are working together to tackle place-based challenges as individuals, within their organisations or beyond.

How will you measure that you have successfully achieved what you plan to do?

We will measure both our outputs and outcomes.

We will know we have been successful with our outputs if we have:

- Developed materials for a series of 4 interactive and engaging workshops.
- Recruited a diverse group of ~10 participants from across a range of local organisations for the workshop series.
- Convened and facilitated the 4 workshops with a range of climate actions being trialled across the group in different contexts.
- Written a short summary report reflecting on the workshops and resulting actions.

The outcomes we would like to see from this project for workshop participants are:

- Knowledge and capacity built around climate change.
 - Increased understanding of, and engagement with, the Shipley Climate Action Plan.
 - Participants feeling inspired, empowered and supported to take climate action in ways that are most relevant and appropriate for them.
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- Wider learning for other communities using Shipley as a test bed and beacon for climate action and eco-hope.

In order to measure these outcomes, we will embed creative methods across our workshops. We have lots of experience in doing this! For example, we will ask people to rate their knowledge of climate change and the Shipley Climate Action Plan before and after the workshops, and we will use timelines and body mapping within the workshops to evaluate changes in inspiration and empowerment. We will also evaluate / support participants to evaluate the impacts from the climate actions arising from the workshops in whatever way is most relevant e.g., that might be simple biodiversity counts, reduction in energy usage, changes in awareness around retrofitting etc.

How much funding are you seeking from STC? (maximum £2000): £1820

Total Cost of Project: £ 3320

Source of balance of funds: We use a portion of our profits from research consultancy for worthwhile and innovative community projects and we recognise the benefits this project will bring to Nifty in the form of learning. Therefore, we would be happy to give 5 days of our time on a pro bono basis (@ £300 per day) in order to bring this project in under the maximum funding amount.

Please include a breakdown of costs:

- Ten days of Nifty team time for participant recruitment, workshop development and delivery, evaluation, write up and reflection @ £300pd = **£3000**
- Workshop costs (venue hire, refreshments and any expenses which mean they are more inclusive for participants e.g. to cover childcare costs / travel) @ £80 per workshop = **£320***

*Please note, as with all our projects, we will spend wisely and into the local Shipley economy, using local suppliers, co-operatives or social ventures for e.g. refreshments and workshop venues. We also build in time to schedules so we (and participants) can use public transport and we encourage active travel for those who can. **and any estimated income (including other grants, admission charges, fundraising, subscriptions and similar) for this project:** N/A

CONTACT DETAILS

REFEREES

Please sign and date to confirm you have read and agree with the
Criteria and Notes for Applicants

Signature of Applicant:
Date: 21/12/23



Applications should only be made on this form, which should be returned by Royal Mail or
electronic mail **by midnight on Friday 5 January 2024** to:

**The Town Clerk
Shipley Town Council
Town Hall, Kirkgate, Shipley BD18 3EJ**

E-mail: deputyclerk@shipleytowncouncil.gov.uk